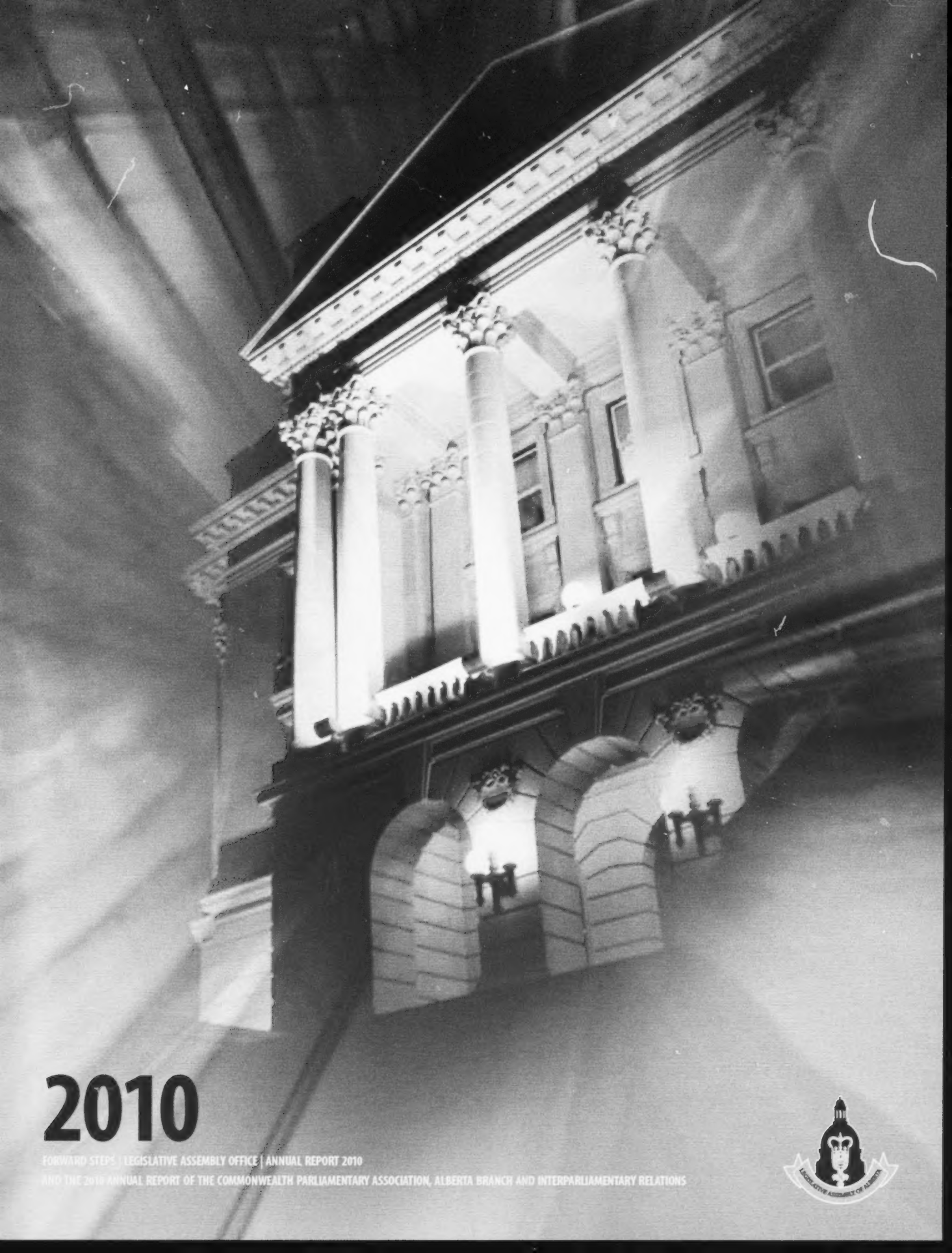

2010

FORWARD STEPS | LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OFFICE | ANNUAL REPORT 2010

AND THE 2010 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION, ALBERTA BRANCH AND INTERPARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS

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Mission, Vision and Values

Our Mission

To provide nonpartisan parliamentary support to the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly as they carry out their roles as elected representatives.

Our Vision

Respect ~ Tradition
Exemplify ~ Service
Promote ~ Innovation

Our Values

Impartiality | Integrity | Improvement

Employees of the Legislative Assembly Office (LAO) are proud to provide services to the Legislative Assembly on behalf of the citizens of Alberta. We are guided in our work and conduct by a core set of principles that motivate us as individuals and reflect the qualities of the office as a whole.

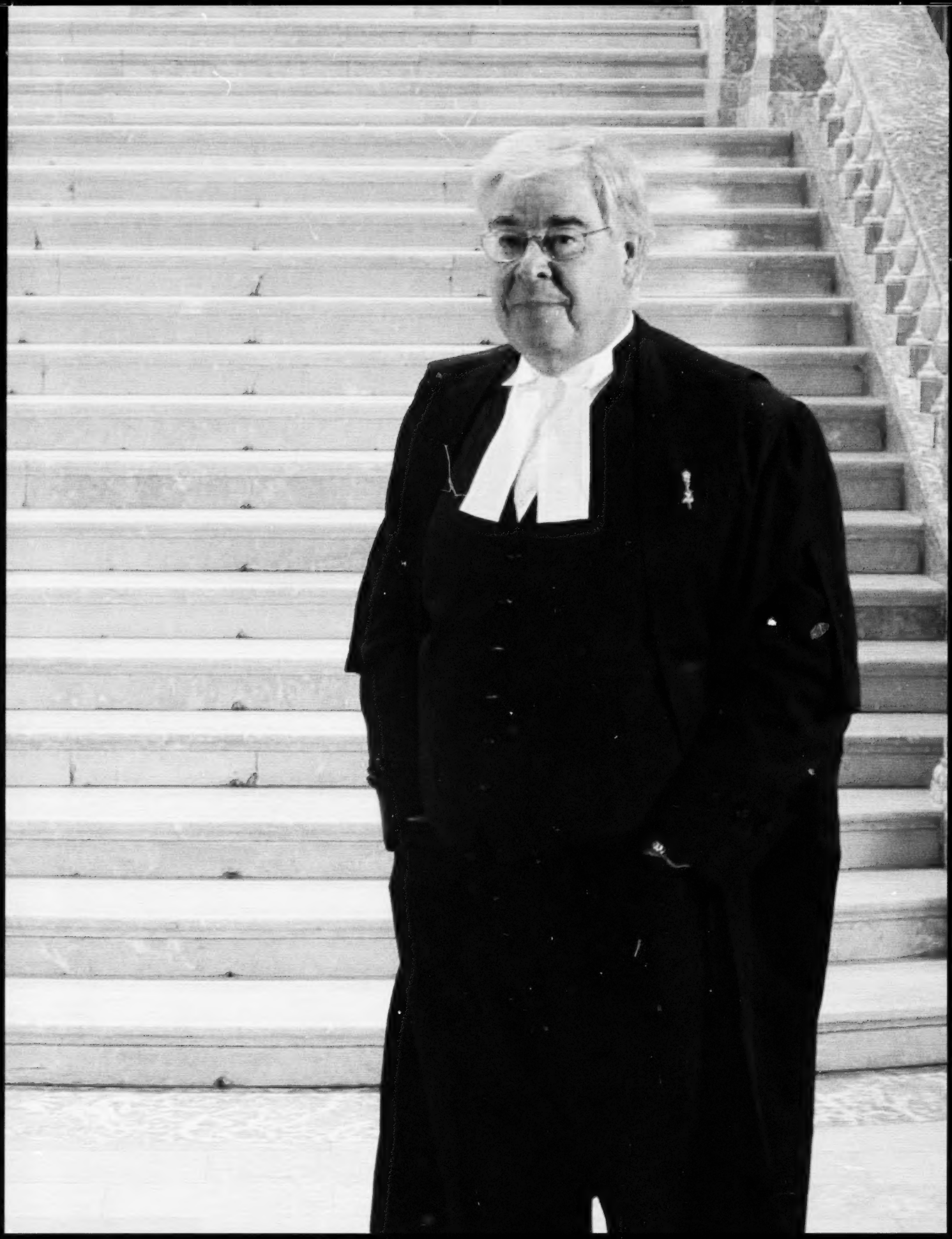
// If each member of our team advances in unison, then success is assured. //

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Forward Steps

It has been a year of looking ahead and moving forward. Planning, preparation and setting broad organizational direction comprised LAO activities in 2010. While progress was made on numerous fronts, our primary focus consisted of taking the necessary steps to ensure the LAO has the tools and resources to fulfill its mandate in the years to come. So what will the next few years look like? Well, change is on the horizon. Our operations will be greatly affected by the move of many Members and staff to the Federal Building in the near future. While this move will provide many opportunities to expand our services to Members and the public, it will also provide challenges. Mitigation of these challenges will only be gained through strategic action and all components moving in concert.

We look forward to bringing our plans to fruition and tackling challenges that the future holds.



"Every year we build on the success of the last. The LAO has built up a great team, and this strength will help propel us through the challenges of tomorrow."

W.J. David McNeil,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Our History

Established in 1983, the origins of Alberta's Legislative Assembly Office can be traced back to 14th century England, when Parliament elected the first Speaker and appointed the first Clerk. The Legislative Assembly Office works hard to uphold and abide by parliamentary tradition while at the same time ensuring our operations are run in a nonpartisan manner and respond to the needs of the Members we serve.

It may come as a surprise to some, but the Legislative Assembly Office is not a government department. The government is the executive branch, responsible for applying and enforcing laws, and the Legislative Assembly is responsible for establishing those laws. We are a separate and unique entity from government with the passion and commitment to provide all Members of the Legislative Assembly, regardless of party affiliation, with the support they need to represent and serve their constituents.

Our Team

Organizational changes occurred in 2010. The new organizational structure will be illustrated in the 2011 report.

Office of the Clerk

Responsible for processing the daily business of the House and providing management and communications support to all branches of the LAO.

The Clerk acts as a liaison at the deputy minister level with government departments and assists in co-ordinating Member participation in interparliamentary activities.

Legal Services – Parliamentary Counsel

Provides legal advice to the Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly, LAO staff, caucuses and committees on a wide range of matters as well as providing advice on parliamentary procedure and drafts private Members' public Bills and private Bills. Parliamentary Counsel serve as table officers in the House and advise the Speaker on points of order and questions of privilege.

Human Resource Services (HRS)

Consults with the Speaker, Members, caucus, constituency and LAO staff and managers to provide customized human resource management services that support the efficient and effective operation of the Legislative Assembly. HRS manages the integrated in-house payroll system, ensuring fair and equitable classification and compensation levels. Additionally, HRS advises staff, managers and Members on employment and policy issues, consults on unit, branch and organizational structure and plans, manages the recruitment process for nonpartisan positions within the LAO and advises on the recruitment process for partisan positions within caucuses and constituencies. As the leader of the health and safety program for the LAO, HRS advises on workplace injury, illness leave and disability management issues. A key role for HRS is to ensure an efficient transition of staff and Members at general elections, by-elections and cabinet shuffles. In support of LAO goals HRS also co-ordinates learning and development initiatives.

House Services

Along with providing advice on parliamentary procedure, producing the Votes and Proceedings, Order Paper and the *Journals* and maintaining House records, House Services makes all arrangements for the Assembly's standing, special standing and select special committee meetings and assists with expenses, budgets, historical records and transcripts relating to committees. In addition, the recording and publishing of print and electronic versions of *Alberta Hansard*, the official report of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and its committees, fall under the responsibility of House Services. This includes the administration of a subscription service to *Alberta Hansard*, Votes and Proceedings, the Order Paper and Bills and the printing and distribution of sessional publications. The *Hansard* staff in the House Services Branch also provide proofreading and editing services to other branches.

Financial Management and Administrative Services (FMAS)

Provides full accounting services such as budget preparation and monitoring, payment processing and financial reporting as well as administrative services, including equipment and supply procurement, telecommunications management, constituency office leasing and credit card administration. FMAS also handles the responsibilities under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and Records Management Guidelines for the LAO.

Library Services

Offers confidential, nonpartisan, timely and accurate information, news, reference and research services to Members and their staff and all branches of the LAO. As well, Library Services provides training in the use of services that are delivered electronically to the Members' desktops. In addition, Library Services preserves and chronicles information about Alberta's history and parliamentary heritage.

Information Technology Services (ITS)

Provides all technology services to the Speaker, Members, caucuses, constituency offices and LAO branches.

ITS places a major emphasis on supporting the technology interdependencies between clients and ensures the operation of all services, including network infrastructure, application development, hardware and software. Importance is placed on meeting the diverse needs of all stakeholders with new and emerging technologies.

Visitor, Ceremonial and Security Services (VCSS)

Plans and executes ceremonial and special events as well as the co-ordination of school and public outreach programs, Legislature tours and delivery of educational and orientation materials. VCSS is also responsible for operating the Legislative Assembly Gift Shop and co-ordinating permanent and travelling exhibits. Maintaining security systems in the Chamber and precincts, co-ordinating security systems for constituency offices and managing the Legislative Assembly Page program are also responsibilities of VCSS.

2010 Progress

3,468,131 words

were transcribed in 2010.

// We're not just managing records at the LAO; we're documenting the progression of our province. Each *Hansard* produced marks a chapter in our legislative history. //

Liz Sim, Managing Editor,
Hansard

Setting Organizational Direction

It has been said that you never step into the same river twice. While an ancient proverb, the saying remains relevant today on many levels, including of all things, records management at the LAO. "As the LAO changes and grows, so too must the way its records are managed," said Jacqueline Breault, Manager of Corporate Services, FMAS. The records management program has definitely evolved since its inception in 2007, and huge strides in implementation were made in 2010. In fact, this past year our records management program developed from the abstract to the concrete, focusing on the implementation of policies to ensure the adequate, appropriate and safe storage of records.

Overseeing the organization-wide implementation, the records management team notes that as the LAO's records management practices have become more standardized, everyone from management to front-line staff has a role to play in ensuring the successful implementation and ongoing management of the program. So what does this mean? Well, it means collaboration and the determination of best practices. The implementation team must work with the LAO as a whole and provide LAO staff with the tools to focus on their own records. This enables staff to make educated decisions regarding the records management process in their respective branches.

Throughout the implementation process the LAO has faced a myriad of challenges, some unique to our legislative environment. For instance, for a small organization we offer a broad range of services from managing a full-service depository library to recording the proceedings of the House and legislative committees to providing tours and educational programming to the public. So as you can imagine, up to this point the records in each branch were dealt with in very different ways. Further to this, the LAO is the custodian of historically significant documents. Uncommon to most organizations there are records that must always be accessible and can never be disposed of. Given this, how do you standardize something with so much variation? The answer is: very carefully and with a huge degree of flexibility.

Scott Ellis, Director of FMAS and Senior Financial Officer notes, "The further we move through implementation, the more we learn that we will succeed only through creative solutions and flexibility." In other words, sometimes the rules have to change in order for the program to remain relevant and applicable.

Moving Forward with Technology

Assembly Online

Over the last decade global communication has been centred on the wired-in world and the public's ever-growing demand to be connected. It isn't enough to simply ensure the information that the public wants is accessible online. The information must be easy to access and scan for people on the go. With these factors in mind the LAO introduced Assembly Online in 2010. With its new look Assembly Online provides improved service to Members and the public through an enhanced portal that connects the user to audio and video web streams of Assembly and committee proceedings. Assembly Online provides the user with multiple ways to view and access both current and archived web streams through a fully searchable database. Val Rutherford, Manager of Planning and Development, ITS, said, "The upgrade to Assembly Online was the perfect opportunity to give the system a friendly face and streamline the way users access a number of resources."

Behind the scenes Assembly Online has simplified the process for the administration, support and troubleshooting of the web streaming system.

Security Incident Report

A single constituency office provides thousands of Albertans with easy access to their representative. Take this number and multiply it by 83 Members and spread it out across the province, and that may give you a glimpse into some of the challenges in security management for the LAO. Along with open access to MLAs comes a degree of risk for not only the MLA but the front-line staff as well. This risk is effectively managed through various security protocols and support from the LAO. The Security Incident Report is a customized secure online database that facilitates a consistent monitoring and reporting method for constituency offices.

Brian Hodgson, Sergeant-at-Arms, said, "The system, built for our unique environment, not only allows for the capturing of statistics to determine allocation of resources but also facilitates co-operation with our security and safety network to ensure constituency office safety."

The objective of the program is the recording of statistical information and storage of incident accounts. The system is accessible through OurHouse (the LAO's intranet site) for easy incident reporting by constituency offices.

// For years the LAO has been striking a balance between delivery of information and content through digital and traditional methods. This is the first year that as a result of client requests our focus was shifted, emphasizing electronic delivery of resources and services. //

Valerie Footz,
Legislature Librarian

Reference requests through e-mail increased 55% between 2008 and 2010.

Broadcasting

Educating and engaging the public has always been a cornerstone of the LAO's mandate. One aspect of creating an open and transparent environment for Alberta's citizens has included broadcasting House proceedings since 1972. Currently Oral Question Period is broadcast live across the province and web streamed from the Legislative Assembly website.

Over the past 30-odd years technology has significantly advanced, and our in-house system has undergone upgrades and improvements throughout this time with one of the most significant equipment upgrades taking place this year. The upgrades to broadcast equipment in 2010 included robotics, cameras, recording, graphics and control systems. The Chamber is now equipped with five cameras that provide increased options for camera angles and shots as well as enhanced picture quality. Looking ahead, the move to new facilities, anticipated in 2013, will increase our capacity to expand on our services to the public. One of the new initiatives planned for the Federal Building includes committee rooms equipped with video capability. "The long-term vision of broadcasting at the LAO holds unlimited potential as the LAO continues to build on its foundation of educating and informing Albertans," said Rhonda Sorensen, Manager of Corporate Communications and Broadcast Services.

21% of the LAO's workforce

was Generation Y (1981-1999) in 2010 as compared to 13% in 2006.

Looking Ahead

Succession planning has been on the minds of CEOs and on the agendas of many board meetings of organizations in North America over the past decade. The LAO is no different. Critical positions are being vacated through planned retirement, and we are well positioned due to the implementation of replacement, development and knowledge transfer strategies.

In planning for tomorrow's workforce, we ask questions such as: what is important to the workforce of the future? Which positions will still exist and which will evolve into something new? These are issues that the LAO has been considering in preparation for the anticipated changes to our environment, including demographic shifts, worker shortages and global economic uncertainty.

How do we ensure that the organization runs smoothly amid such broad changes? We create customized solutions for our specialized environment. While there are common challenges faced by branches of the LAO, each separate work unit has unique considerations in their deliverables and subcultures. Workforce planning is a dynamic process that continually responds to the external market and internal considerations. Working collaboratively to build workforce plans across branches is a key strategy in positioning the LAO for long-term success through environmental changes. Activities through the LAO have taken different forms, depending on the life cycle of the team and branch focus, including succession planning, talent management, career pathing and organization redesign. Aligning these plans with the overall purpose and challenges of the LAO allows us to continue the delivery of high-quality service to our clients.

// As expectations evolve, we must expand service delivery and find new ways to plan for and anticipate organization change. //

Cheryl Scarlett,
Director of Human Resources, Information Technology & Broadcast Services

151,292 visitors

were welcomed to the Legislature in 2010.

// Moving forward, one of our primary goals is to increase opportunities for public engagement in Alberta's legislative system. As part of the Federal Building renovation the new committee rooms will be designed to help achieve this objective. //

Shannon Dean,
Senior Parliamentary Counsel and Director of House Services

Increasing Momentum

Perhaps one of the most anticipated changes on the horizon is the upcoming move to the Federal Building. Since the project was announced in 2008, planning and preparations in support of the site renovation have been steadily progressing, and in 2010 the focus was on integrating a number of public spaces, including a visitor centre housing a gift shop, theatre, exhibition space and interpretive centre. The measure of any democratic system of government is public participation, and the new visitor facility will better invite the public to become engaged in the legislative process.

"The new building provides us with the opportunity to re-evaluate the needs of the LAO and our various audiences," explained Diane Brayman, Manager of Visitor Services. "We want to create spaces that invite visitors and promote Alberta's legislative history and culture."

What will the new public spaces look like? Well, for starters the inclusion of an 80-seat indoor theatre will better facilitate educational programming and provide an indoor venue for entertainment associated with the various special events celebrated annually on the Legislature Grounds. A new gift shop is being built to double the capacity of our current space, and merchandising will continue to focus on promoting Alberta history, culture, industry and art. A gallery designed to specifically house travelling exhibits will allow for the effective promotion of provincial art and artisans.

The grounds themselves will also receive a major facelift. A spacious plaza featuring gardens and fountains will create a welcoming centre in the downtown core and a wonderful introduction to the Legislature Building.

Planning and preparation for the visitor centre included cross-branch consultations and workshops. The input and perspectives of MLAs and all branches of the LAO as well as tourism and education industry partners have provided direction and inspiration for the new spaces. Alberta is a dynamic and diverse province with an exciting history, rich culture and incredible local talent. The goal of the new site is to set the stage for the province to shine.

Featured Events

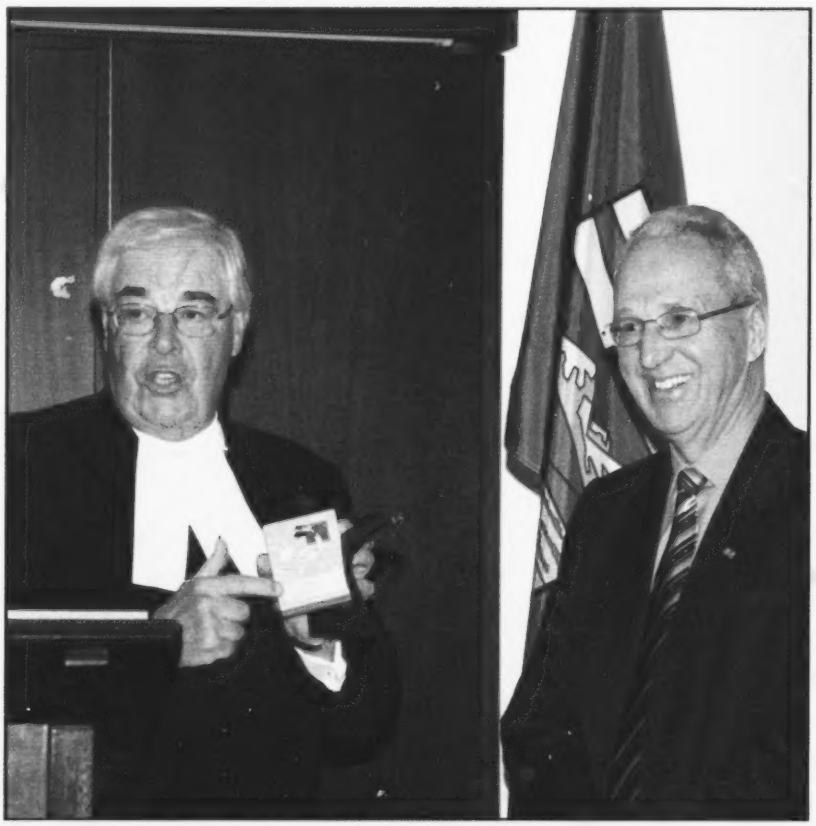
The Legislative Assembly annually hosts a myriad of events to celebrate Alberta's parliamentary system, history, culture and citizens. The following are highlights from 2010.

Auditor General Farewell

February 10

Speaker Ken Kowalski hosted a farewell event on February 10 in the Carillon Room of the Legislature Building for retiring Auditor General Fred Dunn. Remarks were offered by Len Mitzel, MLA and Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices, and Hugh MacDonald, MLA and Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts. Numerous Members of the Legislative Assembly, family and friends attended the event.

On July 6, 2010, Merwan Saher was sworn in as Alberta's 10th Auditor General.



// Not only has Mr. Dunn served the Members of the Legislative Assembly with dignity, but over the course of his service he has also contributed to positive changes that have impacted Albertans. //

Len Mitzel, MLA, Chair of Legislative Offices Committee

Chief Electoral Officer Swearing In

February 17

O. Brian Fjeldheim was sworn in as Chief Electoral Officer at a ceremony hosted by Speaker Ken Kowalski held in the Carillon Room on February 17, 2010. Welcoming remarks were offered by the Hon. Doug Horner, MLA, Deputy Premier, Minister of Advanced Education and Technology; Dr. David Swann, MLA, Leader of the Official Opposition; and Len Mitzel, MLA, Deputy Chair of Committees and Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices.

// One of the primary duties of the Chief Electoral Officer is to provide leadership and direction to Elections Alberta staff and oversee electoral events to ensure they are conducted fairly and that all activities abide by the rules set out in the legislation. //

Hon. Speaker Ken Kowalski

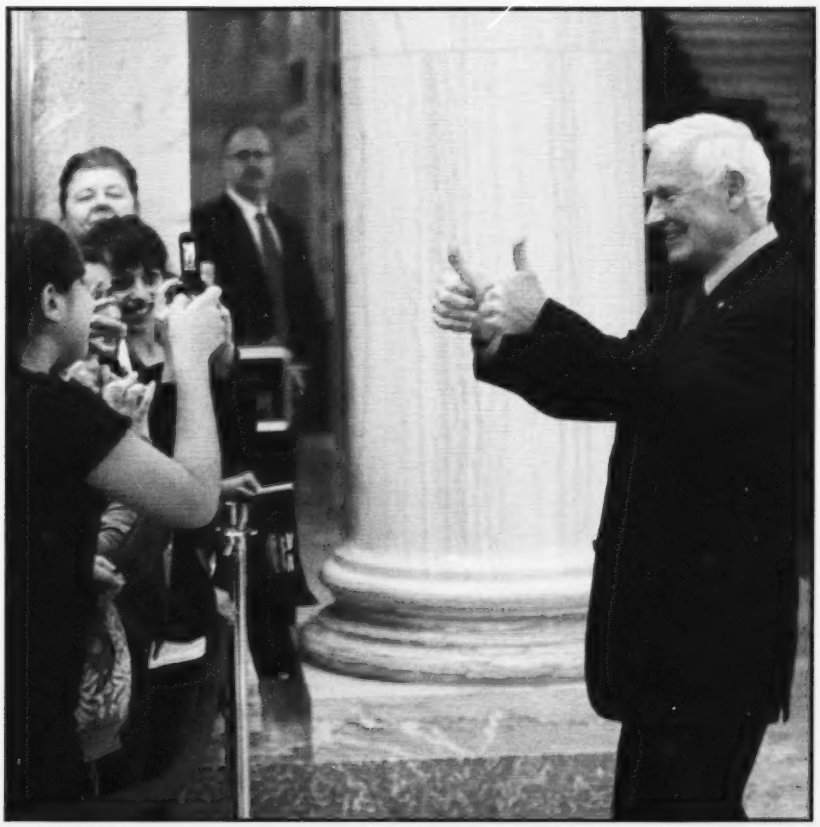
Lieutenant Governor Installation

May 11

The installation of His Honour, Col. (Ret'd) the Hon. Donald Ethell, OC, OMM, AOE, MSC, CD, LLD, as the seventeenth Lieutenant Governor of Alberta was held in the Legislature Chamber on May 11, 2010.

// I am honoured and excited by this opportunity to serve our great province. I will strive every day to earn your confidence and to serve as Her Majesty the Queen's representative in Alberta with honour, loyalty, integrity and trust. //

His Honour, Col. (Ret'd) the Hon. Donald Ethell, Lieutenant Governor



Visit by Canada's Governor General

November 29

Their Excellencies the Right Honourable David Johnston, CC, CMM, COM, CD, Governor General of Canada, and Mrs. Sharon Johnston (not pictured), CC, made their first official visit to the Alberta Legislature on November 29, 2010, and His Honour addressed the Assembly.

// In my installation speech some two months ago I spoke about a dream. I spoke about a smart and caring nation, a call for service, the Canada that we wish to be. There were three pillars in that caring and smart nation. One had to do with family and children, the second had to do with learning and innovation, and the third had to do with philanthropy and volunteerism. I can tell you what we've seen in a short 24 hours in this remarkable province of Alberta. You do all three of those things very well and set the standard for the rest of Canada. //

His Excellency, The Rt. Hon. David Johnston, Governor General of Canada

Comparative Statisics

House and Committee Proceedings

	2010	2009	2008
Sitting Days	60	64	57
Bills Introduced	43	74	67
Petitions Presented	13	56	177
Tablings	525	719	648
Session and Committee Hours	425	437	415

House and Committee Proceedings Documentation

	2010	2009	2008
Hansard Pages	1,798	2,032	2,172
Journals Pages	430	529	561
Votes and Proceedings	294	362	404
Order Paper	365	476	474

Legislative Assembly Website Activity

	2009	2008
Visits	977,420	723,850
Average Visits Per Day	2,685	1,923
Unique Visitors	270,838	336,674
Average User Session Length	9 minutes, 45 seconds	19 minutes, 20 seconds

Computer and Network Equipment

	2010	2009	2008
Workstations	373	363	360
Printers	250	241	157
Servers	59	47	45
Laptops	258	183	186
Mobile Devices	259	250	211

Library Reference Transactions

	2010	2009	2008
In Person	848	1,166	1,103
By Phone	947	1,196	1,328
E-mail	888	682	574

Supplies Processing

	2010	2009	2008
Purchase Orders Processed	4,200	4,100	6,400
Other/special Requests Processed	3,646	3,532	3,325
Supplies Orders Processed Online	753	720	678
Supplies Orders Processed Manually	68	71	73

Office Administration

	2010	2009	2008
Leases Processed	14	22	47
Telecommunications Services	22	15	18
Telecommunications Requests	407	473	425

Financial Services

	2010	2009	2008
Invoices Coded and Data Entered	17,426	17,487	16,518
Payments Issued	12,002	11,607	11,055

Note: Financial statistics are based on the fiscal year April 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010.

Payroll Activity

	2010	2009	2008
Contracts and Amendments Processed	398	477	655
Payroll Transactions	12,757	11,763	11,368

Gift Shop Sales

	2010	2009	2008
Public Sales	93,092	95,280	104,400
MLA Sales	271,757	289,735	354,953

Note: Gift Shop sales are based on the calendar year.

Visitor Statistics

	2010	2009	2008
Visitors Attended Special Events	71,296	60,562	66,373
Program Participants	18,603	15,796	14,545
Visitors Observed Session	7,349	9705	7624
Visitors Participated in Tours	42,200	41,109	41,818

Financial Statements

As at March 31, 2010

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30 Schedule 2 – Salary and Benefits Disclosure

To the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

I have audited the statements of financial position of the Legislative Assembly Office as at March 31, 2010 and 2009 the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Office's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audits.

I conducted my audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Office as at March 31, 2010 and 2009 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

CA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
July 14, 2010

Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2010

	2010	2009
	(in thousands)	
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash	$29,692	$27,843
Accounts receivable and advances	415	523
Inventory held for resale	159	208
	30,266	28,574
Tangible capital assets [Note 4]	2,118	1,977
	$32,384	**$30,551**
Liabilities And Net Assets		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$2,281	$2,648
Vacation pay liability	1,396	1,262
	3,677	3,910
Members' transition allowance liability [Note 6]	22,378	18,317
Net assets	6,329	8,324
	$32,384	**$30,551**

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Changes In Net Assets

As at March 31, 2010

	2010	2009
	(in thousands)	
Net assets at beginning of year	$8,324	$8,476
Net operating results	(53,178)	(50,558)
Net transfer from general revenues	51,183	50,406
Net assets at end of year	**$6,329**	**$8,324**

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2010

	2010		2009
	(in thousands)		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
Revenues			Restated [Note 3c]
Gift shop sales, services and fees	$564	$411	$462
Other	-	165	267
	564	576	729
Expenses			
Voted:			
Financial management and administrative services	1,254	1,195	1,046
Government members' services	3,939	2,986	3,022
House services	8,997	7,243	7,204
Human resource services	1,461	1,245	1,196
Independent Member's services	-	115	-
Information technology services	3,900	3,663	3,228
Legislative committees	2,699	2,157	2,002
Legislature Library	2,764	2,409	2,530
MLA Administration	30,788	29,639	28,537
NDP Opposition services	561	575	542
Office of the Speaker	550	537	518
Official Opposition services	1,537	1,545	1,467
Electoral Boundaries Commission	-	738	-
Wildrose Alliance Opposition services	-	117	-
	58,450	54,164	51,292
Valuation Adjustments:			
Capitalization of assets expensed as supplies [Note 13]	-	(1,183)	(1,234)
Amortization of tangible capital assets [Note 11a]	-	1,042	1,009
Provision for (reduction in) Members' transition allowance liability [Note 6]	-	(452)	(30)
Provision for increase in vacation pay liability	-	134	216
Net consumption of inventory	-	49	34
	-	(410)	(5)
	58,450	53,754	51,287
Net operating results	**($57,886)**	**($53,178)**	**($50,558)**

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2010

	2010	2009
	(in thousands)	
Operating transactions		
Net operating results	($53,178)	($50,558)
Add noncash charges:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	1,042	1,009
Increase in vacation pay liability	134	216
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable and advances	108	(281)
Decrease in inventory	49	34
Decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(367)	(75)
Increase (decrease) in transition allowance liability	4,061	(963)
Cash applied to operating transactions	(48,151)	(50,618)
Investing transactions:		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(1,183)	(1,234)
Financing Transactions:		
Net transfer from general revenues	51,183	50,406
Increase (decrease) in cash	1,849	(1,446)
Cash, beginning of year	27,843	29,289
Cash, end of year	**$29,692**	**$27,843**

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Legislative Assembly Office
Notes to the Financial Statements

Note 1 **Authority**

The Legislative Assembly Office (the "Office") is operated under the authority of the *Legislative Assembly Act*. Annual operating budgets are approved by the Special Standing Committee on Members' Services.

Note 2 **Purpose**

Within the traditions of parliamentary democracy as constitutionally established in Alberta, the Legislative Assembly Office will:

1. Support the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in carrying out the duties of office.
2. Support Members by providing services, advice, information and infrastructure required to carry out their roles as elected representatives.
3. Record the proceedings and maintain and preserve the records of the Legislative Assembly.
4. Inform and educate the public on behalf of Members and the institution of Parliament.
5. Provide a positive, productive, healthy and secure environment for Members and staff of the Assembly.
6. Support the Assembly in protecting its institutions and privileges.
7. Support the exchange of ideas/information among Parliaments.
8. Build partnerships with external clients in support of the institution of Parliament.

Note 3 **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices**

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for the public sector as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants.

a) Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is the Legislative Assembly Office, for which the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly is responsible.

The Office operates within the General Revenue Fund (the "Fund"). The Fund is administrated by the Minister of Finance and Enterprise. All receipts of the Office are deposited into the Fund and all disbursements made by the Office are paid from the Fund. The net transfer from the Fund is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements made.

b) Basis of Financial Reporting

Revenues
All revenues are reported on the accrual basis of accounting.

Expenses
Expenses represent the costs of resources consumed during the year in the Office's operations.

Valuation Adjustments
Valuation adjustments include changes in the valuation allowances used to reflect assets at their net recoverable or other appropriate value. Valuation adjustments also represent the change in management's estimate of future payments arising from obligations relating to vacation pay and transition allowance.

Assets
Financial assets of the Office are limited to financial claims such as cash, advances to and accounts receivable from other organizations, employees and other individuals.

Inventory held for resale is reported at the lower of cost and net realizable value.

Tangible capital assets of the Office are recorded at cost and amortized on a straight-line basis, over the estimated useful lives of the assets, invoiced at $2,500 or greater, as follows:

Computer hardware and software	2 years
Office equipment	5 years
Furniture	10 years

The Office follows government budgetary practices that allow funds from an operating budget to be used to purchase tangible capital assets. These purchases are included in expenses on the statement of operations but are then removed from expenses through a valuation adjustment and are capitalized and amortized over their useful lives.

The fair value of cash and accounts receivable and advances are estimated to approximate their carrying values.

Note 3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (continued)

Liabilities

Liabilities include all financial claims payable by the Office at fiscal year end.

The Members' transition allowance is estimated based on Members' years of service and their most recent remuneration amounts. The annual charge is the amount that is estimated to have been earned by Members during the year.

The fair values of accounts payable and accrued liabilities and Members' transition allowance are estimated to approximate their carrying values.

Net Assets

Net assets represent the difference between the value of assets held by the Office and its liabilities.

c) Change in Accounting Policy

In previous years the Office accounted for accommodation costs provided by Alberta Infrastructure (at no cost) as both revenue and an expense. Effective April 1, 2009, accommodation costs will no longer be recorded in the statements of operations. Rather the amount will be disclosed in an accompanying note (see note 5). The 2009 comparatives have been restated to reflect the exclusion of accommodation costs as both a revenue and expense. There has been no change to the net operating results or net assets.

Note 4 Tangible Capital Assets (in thousands)

	Furniture	Computer hardware and software	Office equipment	2010 Total	2009 Total
Estimated Useful Life	10 years	2 years	5 years		
Historical Cost					
Beginning of Year	$3,105	$2,974	$355	$6,434	$5,925
Additions	43	276	864	1,183	1,234
Disposals	-	(647)	-	(647)	(725)
	$3,148	$2,603	$1,219	$6,970	$6,434
Accumulated Amortization					
Beginning of Year	$1,601	$2,571	$285	$4,457	$4,173
Amortization Expense	292	541	209	1,042	1,009
Effect of Disposals	-	(647)	-	(647)	(725)
	$1,893	$2,465	$494	$4,852	$4,457
Net Book Value at March 31, 2010	**$1,255**	**$138**	**$725**	**$2,118**	-
Net Book Value at March 31, 2009	**$1,504**	**$403**	**$70**		**$1,977**

Note 5 Expenses Incurred by Alberta Infrastructure (in thousands)

The Office had the following transaction with Alberta Infrastructure for which no consideration was exchanged. The amount for this transaction is estimated based on the actual costs incurred by Alberta Infrastructure to provide the service. The estimated cost for the service is $733 (2009 - $667).

Note 6 Members' Transition Allowance Liability (in thousands)

The Office implemented a Members' transition allowance on October 1, 1998. The provisions of the allowance were established in accordance with the Members' Allowances Order (RMSC 1992, c. M-1, as amended, Section 9).

A transition allowance is paid to every Member at the time of dissolution of the Legislature unless they are re-elected in the next election. Members who resign their seats are also eligible for the allowance.

Under section 9 the amount paid for service commencing on or after March 20, 1989, is determined by multiplying three months salary, based on the average monthly salary for the three calendar years in which the person received their highest salary, by the number of years the person served as a Member on or after March 20, 1989. "Salary" is defined in section 9(1). For service periods prior to March 20, 1989, the allowance is calculated by multiplying the highest rate of a Member's monthly indemnity and expense allowances for one month for every year of service prior to March 20, 1989, with no restrictions. There is no credit for years of service for which the Member has previously received a payment under section 9 or the predecessor section. Eligible recipients may elect to be paid the allowance over a period of up to four years.

In the event of death of an active Member a transition allowance equivalent to the amount owed at passing is paid to the Member's estate.

	2010	2009
Liability at beginning of year	$18,317	$19,280
Total transition allowance payments	(712)	(5,132)
Total transition allowance expense	4,773	4,169
Liability at end of year	$22,378	$18,317
Voted expense	$5,225	$4,200
Valuation adjustment	(452)	(30)
Total transition allowance expense	**$4,773**	**$4,170**

Note 7 **Defined Benefit Plans (in thousands)**

The Office participates in the following multi-employer pension plans: Management Employees Pension Plan and Public Service Pension Plan. The Office also participates in the multi-employer Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers. The expense for these pension plans is equivalent to the annual contributions of $1,545 for the year ending March 31, 2010 (2009 - $1,276).

At December 31, 2009, the Management Employees Pension Plan reported a deficiency of $483,199 (2008 – deficiency of $568,574) and the Public Service Pension Plan reported a deficiency of $1,729,196 (2008 – deficiency of $1,187,538). At December 31, 2009, the Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers had a deficiency of $39,516 (2008 - deficiency of $7,111).

The Department also participates in two multi-employer Long Term Disability Income Continuance Plans. At March 31, 2010, the Bargaining Unit Plan reported an actuarial deficiency of $8,335 (2009 – deficiency of $33,540) and the Management, Opted Out and Excluded Plan an actuarial surplus of $7,431 (2009 – deficiency of $1,051). The expense for these two plans is limited to the employer's annual contributions for the year.

Note 8 **Budget (in thousands)**

Expenses:	
2009-2010 budget (a)	$58,450
2009-2010 actual expenses (excluding valuation adjustments)	(54,164)
2009-2010 unexpended (excluding valuation adjustments)	**$4,286**

(a) 2009-10 Offices of the Legislative Assembly estimates presented April 7, 2009.

Note 9 **Contractual Obligations (in thousands)**

The aggregate amounts payable in 2010 for unexpired contracts is as follows:

Leased Properties	$1,570
Office Equipment Rental	$ 332
Consulting	$ 510

Note 10 **Approval of Financial Statements**

These financial statements were approved by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Schedule 1

Expenses - Directly Incurred Detailed by Object

Year ended March 31, 2010

	2010		2009
	BUDGET (note 8)	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
Expenses:			
Salaries, wages and employer contributions	$24,656,840	$21,962,946	$20,507,837
Supplies and services	17,002,117	14,354,883	14,257,150
Grants	7,000	450	540
Payments to MLAs and Executive Council	16,784,043	17,846,256	16,526,755
Total voted expenses	**$58,450,000**	**$54,164,535**	**$51,292,282**

Schedule 2

Salary and Benefits Disclosure

For the year ended March 31, 2010

	2010				2009
	Base Salary (1)	Other Cash Benefits (2)	Other Non-cash Benefits (3)	Total	Total
Senior official					
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly (4)	$264,576	$500	$62,047	$327,123	$349,483
Senior Management Team					
Senior Parliamentary Counsel	167,724	500	43,323	211,547	227,291
Director, Information Technology and Human Resource Services	165,768	500	39,980	206,248	206,968
Senior Parliamentary Counsel	167,724	500	43,298	211,522	227,669
Clerk Assistant and Director of House Services	137,256	257	32,852	170,365	174,651
Legislature Librarian	128,739	470	29,884	159,093	154,619
Director of Visitor, Ceremonial, & Security Services and Sergeant-At-Arms	129,864	420	31,542	161,826	157,175
Director of Financial Management and Administrative Services and Senior Financial Officer	132,024	500	32,126	164,650	162,156

Prepared in accordance with Treasury Board Directive 12/98 as amended.

(1) Base salary includes pensionable base pay.

(2) Other cash benefits include reimbursement for Learning and Wellness Accounts.

(3) Other noncash benefits include the Legislative Assembly Office's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pensions supplementary retirement plans, health care, dental coverage, group life insurance, short- and long-term disability plans, WCB premiums, professional memberships and tuition fees.

(4) Automobile is provided; no dollar amount included in other noncash benefits.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

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President's report

// Freedom of speech and robust debate are necessary in order for Members to make informed decisions in the House, but Members must remember that decorum is paramount. //

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
President of the Alberta Branch of the CPA and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

President's Report

Canadian Regional Conference Highlights Importance of Decorum

At the Canadian Regional Conference held in Regina, Saskatchewan, from July 12 to 16, a wide variety of topics were discussed, including Legislative Public Outreach Programs, The Right to Die and Re-examining the Canadian Constitution just to name a few. Of particular interest to me was the discussion on Challenges of Order and Decorum in the Ontario House. During my tenure as Speaker I have witnessed many incidents that called to question Member decorum. Whether it is unparliamentary language, heckling or failure to comply with House rules, it is the responsibility of all Members to ensure an environment of mutual respect pervades the House. While many of our traditions may seem antiquated, it is the foundation that our democratic parliamentary system is based on.

Although I enjoy a good debate as much as anyone else, it is important to remember that we are speaking on behalf of our constituents when speaking in the House. We are role models, and our constituents expect a certain level of dignity from their elected representatives. It is our challenge to walk the fine line between decorum and debate.

I thank all Members for their ongoing commitment to interparliamentary development and involvement with conferences, which creates an environment of goodwill and mutual understanding throughout the Commonwealth.

Bursaries

Bursaries are presented annually to nominees from TUXIS Parliament of Alberta and the Alberta Girls' Parliament to increase interest in the parliamentary process among Alberta's youth.

Recipients:

TUXIS Parliament of Alberta: Alastair James Starke, Vermilion-Lloydminster

Alberta Girls' Parliament: Maryellen Gibson, Lacombe-Ponoka, and Emily Parsons, Edmonton-McClung

Grade 6 Essay

A province-wide essay contest is held annually for Grade 6 students to encourage greater awareness of the Commonwealth and the parliamentary system.

Recipients:

First place: Nathan Trombley, St. Vincent school, Edmonton-Glenora

Second place: Colleen Nancy Moore, Sir Alexander Mackenzie school, Strathcona

Third place: Brooklyn Shaw, Wye school, Strathcona

The CPA 2010 bursary and essay award presentations were held on May 4, 2010, in the Carillon Room. The event was hosted by Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker, and congratulations were offered by Members Hon. Heather Klimchuk, MLA, Edmonton-Glenora; Hon. Doug Horner, MLA, Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert; Hon. Lloyd Snelgrove, MLA, Vermilion-Lloydminster; David Xiao, MLA, Edmonton-McClung; Ray Prins, MLA, Lacombe-Ponoka; and David Quest, MLA, Strathcona.

// The interdependency of Legislatures has increased as a result of the current global environment. This in turn has exemplified the importance of interparliamentary relations. //

Robert Reynolds, QC,
Law Clerk and Director of Interparliamentary Relations

Secretary's report

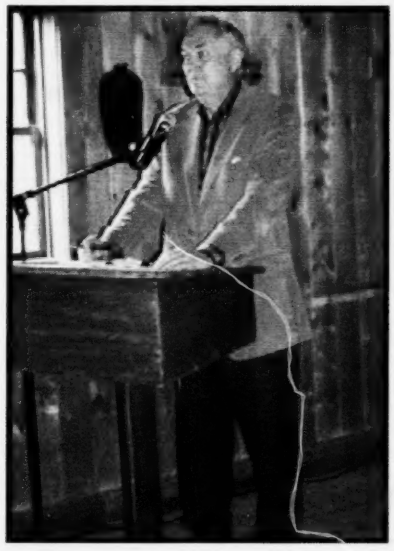
// Interparliamentary relations are always a good investment. I can't think of a better way to gain global perspective on local issues. //

W.J. David McNeil,
Secretary of the Alberta Branch of the CPA and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Secretary's Report

Interparliamentary Relations: A Virtual Classroom

I have always believed in investing in education and self-development. What we do at the legislative level, however, isn't always the stuff of classroom discussions. Most of our learning experiences are garnered through interparliamentary relations. In the classroom of our peers every question is welcome, and every answer is different, depending on who is playing the role of the teacher at the time. The variety of perspectives, the broad range of experience and the diverse personal backgrounds cannot be equalled in any other forum. We have the privilege of networking and finding common ground with people from halfway across the world because although our cultural and economic situations may differ, we all face very similar challenges when it comes to public policy and drafting workable legislation.



Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

HON. CINDY ADY — PC
Calgary Shaw
Minister of Tourism, Parks and Recreation

KEN ALLRED — PC
St. Albert

MOE AMERY — PC
Calgary East

ROB ANDERSON — WA
Airdrie-Chestermere
WA Opposition House Leader (from 01/25/10)
PC (to 01/03/10)

CARL BENITO — PC
Edmonton Mill Woods

EVAN BERGER — PC
Livingstone-Macleod
Parliamentary Assistant, Sustainable Resource Development

NARESH BHARDWAJ — PC
Edmonton Ellerslie

MANMEET SINGH BHULLAR — PC
Calgary Montrose
Parliamentary Assistant, Advanced Education and Technology (to 01/15/10)
Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs (from 01/15/10)

HON. LINDSAY BLACKETT — PC
Calgary North West
Minister of Culture and Community Spirit

LAURIE BLAKEMAN — AL
Edmonton-Centre
Official Opposition Deputy Leader
Official Opposition House Leader

GUY BOUTILIER — WA
Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo
IND (to 10/25/10)

DR. NEIL BROWN, QC — PC
Calgary Nose Hill

PEARL CALAHASEN — PC
Lesser Slave Lake

ROBIN CAMPBELL — PC
West Yellowhead
Deputy Government Whip (to 01/15/10)
Government Whip (from 01/15/10)

WAYNE CAO — PC
Calgary Fort
Deputy Speaker, Chair of Committees

HARRY B. CHASE — AL
Calgary Varsity
Official Opposition Whip

CAL DALLAS — PC
Red Deer South
Parliamentary Assistant, Environment (from 01/15/10)

HON. RAY DANYLUK — PC
Lac La Biche-St. Paul
Minister of Municipal Affairs (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Infrastructure (from 01/15/10)

ALANA DELONG — PC
Calgary Bow

HON. JONATHAN DENIS, QC — PC
Calgary Egmont
Parliamentary Assistant, Energy (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (from 01/15/10)
Deputy Government House Leader (from 01/15/10)

ARNO DOERKSEN — PC
Strathmore-Brooks
Deputy Government Whip (from 01/15/10)

Members of the Legislative Assembly
Alberta Branch

WAYNE DRYSDALE — PC
Grande Prairie-Wapiti

DOUG ELNISKI — PC
Edmonton-Calder

HON. IRIS EVANS — PC
Sherwood Park
Minister of Finance and Enterprise (to 01/15/10)
Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations (from 01/15/10)

KYLE FAWCETT — PC
Calgary-North Hill

HEATHER FORSYTH — WA
Calgary-Fish Creek
WA Opposition Whip (from 01/25/10)
PC (to 01/04/10)

HON. YVONNE FRITZ — PC
Calgary-Cross
Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Children and Youth Services (from 01/15/10)

HON. HECTOR G. GOUDREAU — PC
Dunvegan-Central Peace
Minister of Employment and Immigration (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Municipal Affairs (from 01/15/10)
Deputy Government House Leader (to 01/15/10)

DOUG GRIFFITHS — PC
Battle River-Wainwright
Parliamentary Assistant, Solicitor General and Public Security (to 01/15/10)
Parliamentary Assistant, Finance and Enterprise (from 03/25/10)

GEORGE GROENEVELD — PC
Highwood
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development (to 01/15/10)

HON. DAVE HANCOCK, QC — PC
Edmonton-Whitemud
Minister of Education
Government House Leader

HON. JACK HAYDEN — PC
Drumheller-Stettler
Minister of Infrastructure (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development (from 01/15/10)

KENT HEHR — AL
Calgary-Buffalo

PAUL HINMAN — WA
Calgary-Glenmore
WA Opposition Deputy Leader

FRED HORNE — PC
Edmonton-Rutherford
Parliamentary Assistant, Seniors and Community Supports (from 01/15/10)
Parliamentary Assistant, Health and Wellness (from 11/23/10)

HON. DOUG HORNER — PC
Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert
Deputy Premier (from 01/15/10)
Minister of Advanced Education and Technology

HON. MARY ANNE JABLONSKI — PC
Red Deer-North
Minister of Seniors and Community Supports

BROYCE JACOBS — PC
Cardston-Taber-Warner
Parliamentary Assistant, Agriculture and Rural Development

JEFF JOHNSON — PC
Athabasca-Redwater
Parliamentary Assistant, Treasury Board (from 01/15/10)

ART JOHNSTON — PC
Calgary-Hays

DARSHAN S. KANG — AL
Calgary-McCall

HON. HEATHER KLIMCHUK — PC
Edmonton-Glenora
Minister of Service Alberta

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

HON. MEL KNIGHT — PC
Grande Prairie Smoky
Minister of Energy (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Sustainable Resource Development (from 01/15/10)

HON. KEN KOWALSKI — PC
Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock
Speaker

GENIA LESKIW — PC
Bonnyville-Cold Lake

HON. RON LIEPERT — PC
Calgary West
Minister of Health and Wellness (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Energy (from 01/15/10)

FRED LINDSAY — PC
Stony Plain
Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security (to 01/15/10)

HON. THOMAS A. LUKASZUK — PC
Edmonton-Castle Downs
Parliamentary Assistant, Municipal Affairs (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Employment and Immigration (from 01/15/10)
Deputy Government House Leader (from 05/10/10)

TY LUND — PC
Rocky Mountain House

HUGH MACDONALD — AL
Edmonton-Gold Bar

RICHARD MARZ — PC
Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills

BRIAN MASON — ND
Edmonton-Highlands-Not seated
Leader of the ND Opposition

BARRY MCFARLAND — PC
Little Bow

DIANA MCQUEEN — PC
Drayton Valley-Calmar
Parliamentary Assistant, Environment (to 01/15/10)
Parliamentary Assistant, Energy (from 01/15/10)

LEN MITZEL — PC
Cypress-Medicine Hat
Deputy Chair of Committees

HON. TED MORTON — PC
Foothills-Rocky View
Minister of Sustainable Resource Development (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Finance and Enterprise (from 01/15/10)

RACHEL NOTLEY — ND
Edmonton-Strathcona
ND Opposition House Leader

HON. FRANK OBERLE — PC
Peace River
Government Whip (to 01/15/10)
Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security (from 01/15/10)

VERLYN OLSON, QC — PC
Wetaskiwin-Camrose

HON. LUKE OUELLETTE — PC
Innisfail-Sylvan Lake
Minister of Transportation

BRIDGET A. PASTOOR — AL
Lethbridge-East
Official Opposition Deputy Whip

RAY PRINS — PC
Lacombe-Ponoka

DAVE QUEST — PC
Strathcona

Members of the Legislative Assembly
Alberta Branch

HON. ALISON REDFORD, QC
PC
Calgary Elbow
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Deputy Government House Leader

HON. ROB RENNER
PC
Medicine Hat
Minister of Environment
Deputy Government House Leader

DAVE RODNEY
PC
Calgary Lougheed

GEORGE ROGERS
PC
Leduc Beaumont Devon

PETER SANDHU
PC
Edmonton Manning

JANICE SARICH
PC
Edmonton Decore
Parliamentary Assistant, Education

DR. RAJ SHERMAN
IND
Edmonton Meadowlark
Parliamentary Assistant, Health and Wellness (to 11/22/10)
PC (to 11/22/10)

HON. LLOYD SNELGROVE
PC
Vermilion Lloydminster
President of the Treasury Board

HON. ED STELMACH
PC
Fort Saskatchewan Vegreville
Premier
President of Executive Council

DR. DAVID SWANN
AL
Calgary Mountain View
Leader of the Official Opposition

DR. KEVIN TAFT
AL
Edmonton Riverview

JANIS TARCHUK
PC
Banff Cochrane
Minister of Children and Youth Services (to 01/15/10)

DAVE TAYLOR
IND
Calgary Currie
AL (to 04/11/10)

GEORGE VANDERBURG
PC
Whitecourt Ste. Anne

TONY VANDERMEER
PC
Edmonton Beverly Clareview

GREG WEADICK
PC
Lethbridge West
Parliamentary Assistant, Advanced Education and Technology (from 01/15/10)

HON. LEN WEBBER
PC
Calgary Foothills
Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Aboriginal Relations (from 01/15/10)

TERESA WOO-PAW
PC
Calgary Mackay
Parliamentary Assistant, Employment and Immigration (from 01/15/10)

DAVID XIAO
PC
Edmonton McClung
Parliamentary Assistant, Employment and Immigration (to 01/15/10)

HON. GENE ZWOZDESKY
PC
Edmonton Mill Creek
Minister of Aboriginal Relations (to 01/15/10)
Minister of Health and Wellness (from 01/15/10)
Deputy Government House Leader

Conferences

CANADIAN REGIONAL PRESIDING OFFICERS' CONFERENCE

Whitehorse, Yukon
January 21 to 24

DELEGATES

Len Mitzel, MLA, Deputy Chair of Committees

David McNeil, Clerk

AGENDA

- First Nations Land Claims in the Yukon
- Thirty Years with the CPA
- The National Assembly of Quebec's Sustainable Development Plan of Action
- What's New in House of Commons Procedure and Practice
- Parliamentary Privilege and the Media in the Case of Sun Media Corporation versus the National Assembly of Quebec
- Welcome Back Kotter: New Initiatives in the Senate

SECTION PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE, ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE

Lafayette/Bâton Rouge, Louisiana
March 10 to 13

DELEGATE

Wayne Cao, MLA, Calgary-Fort

PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION (PNWER)

Calgary, Alberta
July 12 to 16

DELEGATES

Ken Allred, MLA, St. Albert

Manmeet Bhullar, MLA, Calgary-Montrose

Cal Dallas, MLA, Red Deer-South

Alana DeLong, MLA, Calgary-Bow

Arno Doerksen, MLA, Strathmore-Brooks

Hon. Iris Evans, Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations

Kyle Fawcett, MLA, Calgary-North Hill

Doug Griffiths, MLA, Battle River-Wainwright

George Groeneveld, MLA, Highwood

Hon. Mel Knight, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development

Hon. Ron Liepert, Minister of Energy

Hon. Lindsay Blackett, Minister of Culture and Community Spirit

Richard Marz, MLA, Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills

Diana McQueen, MLA, Drayton Valley-Calmar

Ray Prins, MLA, Lacombe-Ponoka

Hon. Rob Renner, Minister of Environment

Dave Rodney, MLA, Calgary-Lougheed

Hon. Len Webber, Minister of Aboriginal Relations

AGENDA

- Infrastructure: Pipelines, Railways, Transmission, Air
- 3rd Annual Cross-border Livestock Health Conference
- Environmental Focus on Sustainability
- Stimulus Results and Economic Resilience
- Oil Sands Policy Tour for Legislators
- Impact of Pandemics on Tourism
- Enhanced Oil Recovery and Gas/Coal to Liquids Technology
- Rural and First Nations Workforce Development

CANADIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE CPA

Regina, Saskatchewan
July 12 to 16

DELEGATES

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Pearl Calahasen, MLA, Lesser Slave Lake

Doug Elniski, MLA, Edmonton-Calder

Genia Leskiw, MLA, Bonnyville-Cold Lake

Peter Sandhu, MLA, Edmonton-Manning

Susan Purdie, Special Assistant to the Speaker

AGENDA

- Women, Islam and International Law: Within the Context of Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- Legislative Public Outreach Programs
- The Right to Die
- Challenges of Order and Decorum in the Ontario House
- British Columbia's Unique Initiative Process: The HST Case Study
- Re-examining the Canadian Constitution

REPORT

The Canadian Branch of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) Steering Committee met July 12. This meeting was followed by the CWP Business Session on Cracking the Glass Ceiling; Breaking Down Barriers for Women in Politics; a group discussion on Representation of Women in our Legislatures: New Developments to Increase Diversity and Career Path and Role of the First Woman Deputy Speaker of the Quebec National Assembly.

The official opening of the Canadian Regional Conference began July 13, and the Canadian Regional Council meeting was held July 15. All Members who attended the conference appreciated the opportunity to meet and discuss items of interest with other Members from across Canada.

CANADIAN REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Regina, Saskatchewan
July 15

DELEGATE

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

AGENDA

- Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 20, 2009, and January 23, 2010
- CWP Canadian Region Steering Committee Report
  - Verbal Report – Meetings of July 12, 2010, Myrna Driedger, MLA, Charleswood, Manitoba, Vice-chair, CWP
  - Report – 2009 CWP Outreach Program
  - 2009-2010 Budget Report
  - 2010-2011 Workplan and Budget
  - Chair of CWP International: Election, Kenya 2010
- Financial Matters
  - Confirmation of 2010-2011 Auditors and 2009-2010 Audited Financial Statements
  - 2010-2011 Proposed Budget
  - 2010-2011 Signing Officers
  - 2011-2012 Regional Budget Sharing Formula
  - CPA Income Statement – 11-year Review
- Regional Representative and Stand-by Branch 2010; List of Rotation
- Regional Executive Committee 2010-2011
- *Canadian Parliamentary Review*
- Regional Conference Sites
- Parliamentary Seminar Sites
- Conference of Presiding Officer Sites
- International
  - Delegation Secretaries – 56th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference
  - Verbal Report of Working Group, Hon. Kathleen Casey, Speaker, P.E.I.
  - Verbal Report on Governance, Ms Fatima Houda-Pepin, First Vice-President of National Assembly, Delegated Chair of the Quebec Branch, CPA
  - Verbal Report on the Executive Committee
  - Mid-Year EXCO Meeting in Swaziland
  - 56th Annual CPA Conference, Kenya
  - September 10-19, 2010 – Objectives
  - CPA Mid-year EXCO Meeting 2011 Yukon, 2012 location and date to be confirmed
  - Other
- Other Business
  - Round-table discussion on Future Topics for the 49th Canadian Regional Conference

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES (NCSL)

Louisville, Kentucky
July 25 to 29

DELEGATES

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Naresh Bhardwaj, MLA, Edmonton-Ellerslie

Arno Doerksen, MLA, Strathmore-Brooks

Wayne Drysdale, MLA, Grande Prairie-Wapiti

George Groeneveld, MLA, Highwood

Art Johnston, MLA, Calgary-Hays

Bev Alenius, Executive Assistant to the Speaker

AGENDA

- Strategies for Promoting Economic Growth
- Small Businesses: Generating Jobs through Trade
- Human Trafficking in the Spotlight
- Women's Legislative Network Reception
- NCSL General Session: An Education Success Story
- Jobs, Jobs and More Jobs
- The Best Quote Ever (Legislator Training Track)
- The Transparent Legislature
- Women's Legislative Network Luncheon and Business Meeting
- How Good Is Your Legislature?
- Top 10 Management Characteristics of Highly Rated States
- Town Hall Meetings that Work
- Global Perspectives on Job Creation and Economic Development
- Greening the Legislature
- Creating Jobs in a Recession – Subsidized Employment
- Investing in Our Nation's Infrastructure
- America's Take

DELEGATES' REPORT

As Alberta delegates who had the opportunity to participate in the National Conference of State Legislatures with both international delegates as well as our American neighbours, we feel privileged to have engaged in ideas about policy and legislative management as it affects us all from border to border.

Observations include

- The U.S. will continue to rely on coal-fired power generation for years to come, and they anticipate continued growth in Gulf oil production to supply domestic need with increased regulations.
- China leads in clean coal technology, building new coal-fired generators.
- Unconventional gas reserves will impact the energy future of America.
- The U.S. has health care challenges similar to Canada's.
- Agriculture is characterized by innovation, investment and partnerships.
- Food safety and obesity agenda will impact agriculture.

JOINT CANADIAN COUNCIL OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITORS (CCOLA) AND CANADIAN COUNCIL OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEES (CCPAC)

Quebec City, Quebec
August 28 to September 1

DELEGATES

Manmeet Bhullar, MLA, Calgary-Montrose

Doug Elniski, MLA, Edmonton-Calder

Len Mitzel, MLA, Cypress-Medicine Hat

Dave Rodney, MLA, Calgary-Lougheed

AGENDA

- Interactive Briefing Session – Canadian Comprehensive Auditing Foundation
- Breakout Session for Chairs and Vice-chairs – Discussion on Issues To Be Addressed by the Committees To Continue To Improve Their Practices
- The Role of Committees in Exercising Parliamentary Control over the Government Management in the Westminster System (Oceania and British Isles)
- Panel Discussion of the Parliamentary Control Exercised by Three Canadian Assemblies, Including the Study of Estimates
- General Discussion on the Role of Committees with Regard to Parliamentary Control over the Government Management
- Follow-up of Committee Recommendations
- Canadian Programs To Support Parliamentary Oversight and Supreme Audit Institutions in Developing Countries
- The Issue of Communications – How To Publicize the Work of the Public Accounts Committees?

REPORT

by Dave Rodney

This was a unique opportunity for parliamentarians and employees of Public Accounts Committees to discuss topics of mutual interest concerning the scrutiny of government administration and share best practices of the same. Delegates hailed from all across Canada and well beyond our borders.

The conference enables delegates to reflect on strategies which aim to support the constant improvement of our public services. Presentations and exchanges provided a framework to better understand activities from differing perspectives and discover new avenues to follow in the accomplishment of our respective responsibilities. It was fascinating to learn of the challenges that Public Accounts Committees face in different parts of the country, and it was extremely beneficial to share and gain insights regarding alternative methods of dealing with problems and celebrating success.

by Len Mitzel

The opening of the CCPAC meeting took place in the Quebec National Assembly by the Speaker of the National Assembly. He gave an overview of Public Accounts from a Quebec perspective. Delegates came from Australia, Burma, Bangladesh and Ghana.

Canada's Auditor General, Sheila Fraser, gave a brief outline of the 48 audits from her department over the last year.

A session was held regarding Canada's role in helping developing countries work towards democracy, especially with respect to Public Accounts and accountability. Alberta is twinned with Vietnam.

REGIONAL ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE

Winnipeg, Manitoba
August 30 to September 3

DELEGATE

George Rogers, MLA, Leduc-Beaumont-Devon

REPORT

by George Rogers

Attending the conference were representatives from British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec, Prince Edward Island and Louisiana sections.

The first working session reflected on the linguistic duality of the Olympic and Paralympic 2010 Winter Games, held in Vancouver. Senator Champagne presented a report on this subject that criticized the lack of French content throughout the games.

The second working session heard from Senator Éric LaFleur, president of the Louisiana section, on the importance of enlisting the support of municipally, regionally and nationally elected members in the defence of French in minority situations.

The third working session was dedicated to a presentation from Mr. Louis Allain, Director General of Economic Development Council for Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities.

The fourth working session saw Mr. Michel Samson, president of the Nova Scotia section, speak to the Bonjour program and Nova Scotia's law on French services.

Mr. Lalonde presented his proposed project on the Francophone Youth Parliament of America, which formed the fifth working session of the conference.

The sixth session heard Mr. Henri-François Gautrin from the Quebec section present a report on the co-operative movement as an economic development tool in francophone regions of America.

Attendance at this conference gave me an excellent opportunity to learn a number of important aspects of French, particularly in the Americas, and to meet with colleagues from other jurisdictions.

56TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE (CPA)

Nairobi, Kenya
September 10 to 19

DELEGATES

Genia Leskiw, MLA, Bonnyville-Cold Lake

Teresa Woo-Paw, MLA, Calgary-Mackay

REPORT

by Genia Leskiw

Over 900 delegates from 54 Commonwealth countries attended the week-long conference. The theme of the conference was Parliament and Development in the 21st Century. The conference brought together Speakers, Ministers, Members of Parliament,

Members of Legislative Assemblies, parliamentary officials and observers.

There were many workshops for delegates to attend. I had the chance to participate in a workshop called Energy and Environment: Achieving Sustainable Development. There were four discussion leaders, of which I was one.

PARTNERSHIP OF PARLIAMENTS

Edmonton, Alberta
October 16 to 21

DELEGATES

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Hon. Ted Morton, Minister of Finance and Enterprise

Hon. Frank Oberle, Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security

Hon. Jonathan Denis, Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs

Naresh Bhardwaj, MLA, Edmonton-Ellerslie

Brian Mason, MLA, Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood

AGENDA

- Fort McMurray Oil Sands Tour
- Introduction to the Canadian Federal System
- Introduction to Fiscal Federalism – History
- Current Arrangements for Fiscal Federalism
- Challenges to Fiscal Federalism

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION CANADIAN SEMINAR

Ottawa, Ontario
October 17 to 23

DELEGATES

Moe Amery, MLA, Calgary-East

Carl Benito, MLA, Edmonton-Mill Woods

REPORT

by Moe Amery

From the outset the conference presented as being very well organized. There were numerous sessions/presentations/discussions that were thought-provoking and certainly beneficial. We heard from a variety of speakers, which included Clerks of the House of Commons and the Senate. The speakers offered insight into the overview of the role and operation of the Canadian Parliament. In addition, a wide range of topics were discussed such as the Commonwealth and the role of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, the Canadian political scene and the participation and engagement of youth.

Certainly, meetings such as these are an extremely great way of bringing people from different countries and provinces together to exchange ideas. The exchange of information enriches the discussions and allowed us the opportunity to familiarize ourselves with what really is happening in other parts of the world. We compare notes, and we learn from each other.

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION REGIONAL SEMINAR

Toronto, Ontario
October 21 to 24

DELEGATES

Naresh Bhardwaj, MLA, Edmonton-Ellerslie

Art Johnston, MLA, Calgary-Hays

Ray Prins, MLA, Lacombe-Ponoka

AGENDA

- Backbench Private Members' Bills: A Waste of Time or Not?
- Climate Change on P.E.I.: Impact and Adaptation
- Alberta Oil Sands
- Regulations: Is There Enough Oversight by Parliamentarians?
- Technology in the Legislature: When Does It Become Distractive?

REPORT

by Ray Prins, Art Johnston and Naresh Bhardwaj

As Alberta delegates who had the opportunity to participate in the Canadian Regional Seminar, we felt privileged to have engaged in ideas about policy and legislative management. We felt it was a worthwhile seminar, and we enjoyed the topics and discussion. The speakers and staff were excellent and ensured everyone participated. We recommend that Alberta delegates continue attending upcoming conferences.

COMMONWEALTH WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS CANADA OUTREACH PROGRAM

Vancouver, British Columbia
November 4 to 7

DELEGATE

Teresa Woo-Paw, MLA, Calgary-Mackay

AGENDA

- Simon Fraser University, School of International Studies Meeting
- Young Women in Politics: Equal Voice and Experiences
- West Coast LEAF
- Barriers to Women Seeking Elected Office Study
- Discussions on Engaging Women – Transforming Cities Initiative
- Canadian Women Voters Congress: Municipal Campaign School

REPORT

by Teresa Woo-Paw

Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) – Canada is a network that provides the opportunity for sharing experiences and seeking solutions to the special challenges faced by the female minority in parliaments.

The purpose of the CWP outreach program is to increase women's representation in all levels of government. The outreach programs include discussions on the subjects of the role of the CWP and objectives of the CWP outreach program, the multiple roles of parliamentarians, increasing youth engagement, the road to election day and the election process.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMIC REGION (PNWER)

Stevenson, Washington
November 17 to 20

DELEGATES

Alana DeLong, MLA, Calgary-Bow

George Groeneveld, MLA, Highwood

Hon. Mel Knight, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development

COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS LAWS (COGEL)

Washington, DC
December 5 to 8

DELEGATES

Laurie Blakeman, MLA, Edmonton-Centre

Ty Lund, MLA, Rocky Mountain House

Dave Quest, MLA, Strathcona

AGENDA

- Electronic Filing Round-table
- Local Agency Round-table
- International Perspectives Round-table
- Plenary Session: Spencer Overton, Professor of Law, George Washington University Law School
- Ethics Update
- Setting a Good Example: Balancing Disclosure and Privacy in an Oversight Environment
- I-Voting: Panacea or Pandora's Box?
- Accounting for Our Campaign Finance Laws: Audit Techniques and Tools
- Public Financing and Small Donor Democracy
- Elections Update: Current Trends in Legislation and Litigation
- Freedom of Information (FOI) Legislation and Litigation Update
- As the Revolving Door Turns: Emerging Regulatory Trends
- Independent Expenditures and Citizens United: The Federal Aftermath
- Ethics Enforcement: How To Make It Work
- Campaign Finance Regulation and New Media
- Citizen Engagement in Policy Making: Trust and Governance in an Era of Networked Relationships
- Plenary Session: Drago Kos, chairman of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) – Slovenia
- Issues of Electronic Access in 2010
- Campaign Finance Update Part I (Litigation)
- Communicating about Our Mission through the Media: Rules of Engagement
- Measuring the Success of Ethics Programs: What Are the Metrics?
- Elections Costs: Managing Expectations in a World of Increasing Complexity
- Lobbying Legislation and Litigation Update
- Access Implications of Government-related Records Held by Government-created Private Entities
- Extending Pay-to-play and Ethics Laws to Contractors: Too Far or Not Far Enough?
- Campaign Finance Update Part II (Legislation)
- Census 2010: Anticipating the Impact of Redistricting
- Plenary Session: Lobbying Regulation in the Nation's Capital – Too Much? Too Little? Just Enough?
- Freedom of Information Round-table
- To Tweet or Not To Tweet: Engaging the Public through Social Media
- Independent Expenditures and Citizens United: The State/Local Response
- A Peek Behind the Curtain: Corporate Compliance
- Civic and Democratic Engagement: Reaching New Voters
- Loopholes Update: How Campaigns Are Getting Around Campaign Finance and Disclosure Laws and How To Close Them
- Looking Forward: Leadership Lessons for Transitional Times

REPORT

by Ty Lund, Laurie Blakeman and Dave Quest

The conference program covered elections, campaign financing, ethics, lobbying and information and privacy, with particular emphasis on lobbying and ethics issues. There were update sessions with respect to ongoing, resolved and new issues and legal matters relating to elections, ethics, lobbying and freedom of information. Alberta was represented by delegates from the city of Calgary, the office of the Ethics Commissioner, the office of the Chief Electoral Officer and the Legislative Offices Committee. Delegates were also present from the various provincial offices of elections, lobbying, ethics and information and privacy from the provinces of British Columbia, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Northwest Territories, Ontario and Quebec as well as representatives from those offices within the government of Canada. The Alberta delegates were also guests of a former page of the Alberta Legislative Assembly who now works in the office of the Senator for South Dakota. Ms Laird led the Alberta delegates on a tour of the Capitol Building and into the Senate gallery to observe the debate and vote on a bill.

COGEL is an international organization whose primary membership originates in the United States and Canada. Delegates and session participants at the 2010 conference were from the United States, Canada, Australia, Cayman Islands, Britain and Slovenia. As noted, Canadian jurisdictions were well represented, and moderators and panellists included representatives from various federal and provincial offices. The 2011 conference will be held in Nashville, Tennessee, in December 2011.

Interparliamentary Relations 2010

The Speaker, the Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees, the Deputy Chair of Committees and staff of the Legislative Assembly Office are involved in ongoing liaison with Members and staff of other parliaments and with other representatives of foreign countries. In 2010 they met with the following visitors:

February 22
His Excellency Georg Witschel
Ambassador of the Republic of Germany

March 10
His Excellency Matthias Brinkmann
Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Canada

March 15
His Excellency Andrea Meloni
Ambassador of Italy

April 12
His Excellency Justin Hugh Brown
Australian High Commissioner

April 28
His Excellency Francisco Barrio Terrazas
Ambassador of the United Mexican States

May 10
His Excellency Mouldi Sakri
Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia

May 12
His Excellency Zenon Kosiniak-Kamysz
Ambassador of the Republic of Poland

May 20
Vietnamese Delegation
Auditor General's Office

June 14
His Excellency Khaled Mahfoodh Abdulla Bahah
Ambassador of the Republic of Yemen

July 6
Mr. Xinjian Wu
Consul General of China

July 13
The Honourable Koichi Ishii
Speaker, Prefecture of Hokkaido
The Honourable Owamu Takai
Vice-governor of Hokkaido and delegation

August 30
Interparliamentary Association Canada-France Delegation
Francophone Senators

September 20
Ms Liu Yongfeng
Consul General of the People's Republic of China

September 22
Mr. Jean-Charles Bou
Consul of the Republic of France

September 29
Mr. Johannes Vervloed
Consul General of the Netherlands

October 13
Mr. Arthayudh Srisamoot
Consul General of Thailand

October 15
Jathedar Gurbachan Singh
Sri Akal Takhat Sahib, Punjab, India

October 17
Federal German Parliamentarian Delegation

October 17
Partnership of Parliaments Study Tour Delegation

October 20
Her Excellency Sheila Sealy Monteith
High Commissioner for Jamaica

October 27
His Excellency Andrew Needs
High Commissioner for New Zealand

November 1
Delegation for Relations with Canada
European Union Parliamentarians
His Excellency Manuel Schaerer Kanonnikoff
Ambassador of the Republic of Paraguay

November 9
Guangxi People's Congress Mission

December 1
His Excellency Kaoru Ishikawa
Ambassador of Japan

Former Members of the Legislative Assembly Obituaries

Ronald Armor Moore MLA # 555
July 28, 1925 - January 9, 2010

Mr. Moore was first elected in the election held November 2, 1982, and served three terms until May 18, 1993. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Lacombe for the Progressive Conservative Party.

During his term of office Ron Moore served on several committees: the Select Committee on the Workers' Compensation Act and the Occupational Health and Safety Act; the Select Special Committee on Upper House Reform Overview and Recommendations; the Select Standing Committee on Law and Regulations; the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts; the Select Standing Committee on Public Affairs; the Select Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act; and the Special Standing Committee on Members' Services.

Harry Elliott Alger MLA # 547
April 8, 1924 - January 27, 2010

Mr. Alger was first elected in the election held November 2, 1982, and served two terms until March 20, 1989. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Highwood for the Progressive Conservative Party.

During his term of office Harry Alger served on the standing committees on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act; Private Bills; Public Affairs; Law and Regulations; and Public Accounts and on the Select Special Committee on Upper House Reform.

William John Yurko MLA # 440
February 11, 1926 - January 28, 2010

Mr. Yurko was first elected in the by-election held February 10, 1969, and served until April 24, 1978, at which time he resigned to seek the nomination to a federal constituency. During his years of service he represented the constituencies of Strathcona-East and Edmonton-Gold Bar for the Progressive Conservative Party.

During his term of office Bill Yurko served as Minister of Housing and Public Works and Minister of the Environment. As a Private Member he served on the standing committees on Private Bills, Standing Orders and Printing; Public Accounts; Public Affairs, Agriculture and Education; Public Affairs; Privileges and Elections; Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing; Law, Law Amendments and Regulations; Law and Regulations; and Automobile Insurance.

Mr. Yurko was elected to the House of Commons for the constituency of Edmonton East May 22, 1979, and re-elected on February 18, 1980. His term ended September 4, 1984. He was a recipient of the 2002 Michael Luchkovich award for outstanding public service by a parliamentarian of Ukrainian origin.

Frederick Haliday Peacock MLA # 472
November 23, 1916 - February 15, 2010

Mr. Peacock was first elected in the election held August 30, 1971, and served two terms until February 14, 1979. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Calgary-Currie for the Progressive Conservative Party.

During his term of office Fred Peacock served as Minister of Industry and Tourism and Minister of Industry and Commerce. He also served on the standing committees on Public Accounts; Public Affairs; Law and Regulations; Public Affairs, Agriculture and Education; and the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act and on the Select Committee on the Legislative Assembly Reviewing Intra Provincial Trucking Regulations.

Mr. Peacock served as Agent General Asia Pacific for the Alberta government from 1982 to 1985.

Richard David Gruenwald MLA # 483
January 22, 1917 - February 24, 2010

Mr. Gruenwald was first elected in the election held August 30, 1971, and served one term until March 25, 1975. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Lethbridge-West for the Social Credit Party.

During his term of office Richard Gruenwald served on the standing committees on Private Bills; Private Bills, Standing Orders and Printing; Privileges and Elections; Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing; and Public Affairs, Agriculture and Education and on the Special Committee of the Legislature on Professions and Occupations.

Thomas George Thurber MLA # 618
October 26, 1934 - March 7, 2010

Mr. Thurber was first elected in the election held March 20, 1989, and served three terms until March 11, 2001. During his years of service he represented the constituencies of Drayton Valley-Calmar and Drayton Valley for the Progressive Conservative Party.

During his term of office Tom Thurber served on Executive Council as Minister of Public Works, Supply and Services from June 30, 1993, to December 21, 1994, and as Minister of Municipal Affairs from December 21, 1994, to March 26, 1997. He also served on the standing committees on Law and Regulations; Private Bills; Public Accounts; and Public Affairs.

David Mike Broda MLA # 682
September 17, 1944 - June 13, 2010

Mr. Broda was first elected in the election held March 11, 1997, and served two terms until November 21, 2004. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Redwater for the Progressive Conservative Party.

During his term of office Dave Broda served on the standing committees on Law and Regulations; Public Accounts; Public Affairs; and the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act and on the Special Standing Committee on Members' Services and Special Health Information Act Review Committee.

Mr. Broda served as chair of the Long Term Care Policy Advisory Committee, which authored Healthy Aging: New Directions for Care, commonly known as the Broda report (1999).

Nigel Ian Pengelly **MLA # 536**
May 29, 1925 - July 3, 2010

Mr. Pengelly was first elected in the election held March 14, 1979, and served three terms until March 19, 1989. During his years of service he represented the constituency of Innisfail for the Progressive Conservative Party.

During his term of office Mr. Pengelly served on the Select Committee on Recreational and Commercial Fishing Industries in Alberta; the Select Special Committee to Examine the Role of the Upper House in the Canadian Federal System; the standing committees on Law and Regulations, Private Bills, Public Accounts, Public Affairs, and the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act; the Special Committee to Prepare and Report Lists of Members to Compose the Select Standing Committees; and the Special Select Standing Committee on Members' Services.

Wilma Helen Hunley **MLA # 475**
September 6, 1920 - October 22, 2010

Miss Hunley was first elected in the election held August 30, 1971, and served two terms until March 13, 1979. During her years of service she represented the constituency of Rocky Mountain House for the Progressive Conservative Party.

She served as minister without portfolio; chair, Alberta Human Resources Research Council; Solicitor General; and Minister of Social Services and Community Health.

She was the first woman to be given full ministerial status in the Alberta government with her appointment as the first Solicitor General of Alberta.

She served on the select standing committees on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing; Public Accounts; Public Affairs; and Public Affairs, Agriculture and Education and on the Special Committee to make a recommendation to the Assembly for the position of Ombudsman.

The Honourable Helen Hunley was Alberta's 12th and first female Lieutenant Governor, serving from January 22, 1985, to March 11, 1991. Helen Hunley was the first female mayor of Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. She served as Lieutenant, Canadian Women's Army Corps, from 1941 to 1946, and served overseas in Great Britain from 1943 to 1945.

Helen Hunley received the following awards:

- Officer of the Order of Canada (1992),
- Golden Jubilee Medal (2002),
- Dame of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem (1985),
- Honorary Doctorate of Laws, University of Alberta (1985), and
- Honorary Lieutenant Colonel of the 20th Field Regiment of the Royal Canadian Artillery (1991 – Red Deer, Alberta).

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